Declaration of Renuka Dam Project as a National Project

3011. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Renuka Dam Project has been declared as a National Project;

(b) whether it is also a fact that necessary approval have not been accorded so far;

(c) if so, the details thereof, and the current status of the said project alongwith the formalities which are to be completed with the various Ministries/Departments;

(d) the steps taken by Government to expedite the process of getting these formalities completed; and

(e) the time by when this project is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT PALA): (a) The Renuka Dam project has been included in the list of National Projects.

(b) and (c) The Project authorities have informed that they would submit a revised estimate of the project to Central Water Commission (CWC) by middle of August, 2009. Central Electricity Authority (CEA) has cleared the cost estimate of Electrical and Mechanical works and has requested Project authorities to furnish Power potential studies. The environmental clearance is under process. The proposal in this regard was considered by a committee in the Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF) on 15.5.2009 and the requisite clarifications sought therein have now been submitted by the project authorities. R&R clearance has been obtained from the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.

After the completion of appraisal by CWC and CEA and receipt of Environmental clearance from MoEF, the project proposal will be put to the Technical Advisory Committee of Ministry of Water Resources for consideration for techno-economic clearance. After the techno-economic clearance is accorded, the project would be submitted, by the State Government, to the Planning Commission for investment clearance.

(d) In the 3rd meeting of Steering Committee of expedite Implementation of Storage Projects in upper reaches of Yamuna, convened by the Secretary (WR) on 20th July, 2009 at New Delhi, the status of clearances was reviewed. The project authorities were requested to supply the needed inputs for early clearance and all the concerned departments were requested to expedite the process of according clearance to the project.

(e) According to the project authorities, major civil works are likely to be awarded during 2009-10, provided all statutory clearances are available, and thereafter the project is likely to be completed by 2016 subject to timely availability of funds.